CCRB INVESTIGATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Investigator:		Team:	CCRB Case #:	✓ Force	Discourt.	U.S.
Alfredo Gonzalez		Squad #3	201704633	☐ Abuse	O.L.	✓ Injury
Incident Date(s) Location of Inciden		Location of Incident:		Precinct	: 18 Mo. SOL	EO SOL
Wednesday, 06/07/2017 9:30 PM		East 109th Street and 1	st Avenue	23	12/7/2018	12/7/2018
Date/Time CV Reported		CV Reported At:	How CV Reported:	Date/Ti	me Received at CC	RB
Fri, 06/09/2017 8:15 AM		CCRB	Call Processing System	Fri, 06/	09/2017 8:15 AM	
Complainant/Victim	Type	Home Addre	ess			
Witness(es)		Home Addre	ess			
Subject Officer(s)	Shield	TaxID	Command			
1. POM Matthew Vantress	14994	946358	023 PCT			
2. POM Anthony Lorusso	07410	960833	023 PCT			
3. POM Jonathan Perez	17154	951041	023 PCT			
4. POM Michael Laborde	05867	954037	023 PCT			
Witness Officer(s)	Shield N	o Tax No	Cmd Name			
1. SGT Jonathan Hom	4803	940269	023 PCT			
Officer(s)	Allegatio	on		In	vestigator Recor	nmendation
A.POM Matthew Vantress	Force: Poagainst	olice Officer Matthew V	antress used physica	al force		
B.POM Anthony Lorusso	Force: Poagainst §	olice Officer Anthony Lo	orusso used physical	force		
C.POM Matthew Vantress	Force: Poagainst §	olice Officer Matthew V 87(2)(b)	antress used physica	al force		
D.POM Matthew Vantress	Discourte discourte	esy: Police Officer Mattl cously to §87(2)(b)	hew Vantress spoke			
E.POM Jonathan Perez	Force: Poagainst §	olice Officer Jonathan Pe	erez used physical fo	orce		
F.POM Michael Laborde	Force: Poagainst §	olice Officer Michael La 87(2)(b)	borde used physical	force		
G.POM Matthew Vantress	Force: Po § 87(2)(b)	olice Officer Matthew V	antress used a Taser	against		
H.POM Matthew Vantress	Force: Po § 87(2)(b)	olice Officer Matthew V	antress used a Taser	against		
I.POM Jonathan Perez	Force: Poagainst	olice Officer Jonathan Pe	erez used physical fo	orce		

Officer(s)	Allegation		Investigator Recommendation
§ 87(2)(g), § 87(4-b)			
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Case Summary

<u>Case Summary</u>
filed this complaint with the CCRB on behalf of himself and his brother,
via the Call Processing System, on June 9, 2017.
On June 7, 2017, at approximately 9:30 p.m., \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) responded
to the vicinity of East 109 th Street and 1 st Avenue in Manhattan after having been informed that
s daughter had been struck by a vehicle while crossing the street. Upon arrival,
observed PO Matthew Vantress and PO Anthony Lorusso of the 23 rd Precinct at
the location, as well as two ambulances. §87(2)(b) and §87(2)(b) approached the
officers and asked them if they could direct them to \$87(2)(b) s daughter. PO Vantress told
that he did not know where she was and allegedly began pulling and pushing
to the sidewalk with PO Lorusso's assistance (Allegation A: Force,
and Allegation B: Force, \$87(2)(9) PO Vantress also allegedly pushed
twice (Allegation C: Force, \$87(2)(9) During the course of their interaction,
PO Vantress allegedly told \$87(2)(b) to "shut the fuck up" multiple times, commanded him
to get on the "fucking" sidewalk, to put his "fucking" hands behind his back, stated, "Did you
hear what I fucking said," and called him a "motherfucker" (Allegation D: Discourtesy,
§ 87(2)(9) eventually went to his daughter inside the ambulance while
PO Vantress and PO Lorusso held onto \$87(2)(b) and attempted to get him onto the
sidewalk. At some point during the struggle, PO Vantress removed his Taser and requested
additional units. PO Jonathan Perez, Sgt. Jonathan Hom, and PO Michael Laborde of the 23 rd
Precinct arrived to the location and PO Perez and PO Laborde assisted in trying to handcuff
but they were unable to do so (Allegation E: Force, \$87(2)(9) and Allegation
F: Force, \$87(2)(9) Afterward, PO Vantress deployed his Taser against \$87(2)(9) two
times (Allegation G: Force, \$87(2)(9) and Allegation H: Force, \$87(2)(9) While on
the ground, PO Perez allegedly placed his foot on §87(2)(b) s back to hold him down on the
ground (Allegation I: Force , § 87(2)(9) § 87(2-b)
§ 87(2)(b) was arrested for § 87(2)(b)
and § 87(2)(b) was arrested for § 87(2)(b)
(BR 01). § 87(2)(b) was transported to § 87(2)(b) for the
removal of the Taser prongs.
provided partial cellphone footage that captured PO Vantress holding onto
and officers attempting to place [887(2)(b)] in handcuffs (BR 02).
Fig. Marcon and Decreasing defense
Findings and Recommendations
Allegation A – Force: Police Officer Matthew Vantress used physical force against §87(2)(b)
Allegation B – Force: Police Officer Anthony Lorusso used physical force against 887(2)(b)
Allegation C – Force: Police Officer Matthew Vantress used physical force against \$87(2)(6)
Anegation C – Porce, I once Officer Matthew Valuess used physical force against soloto
It is undisputed that PO Vantress and PO Lorusso used physical force against §87(2)(b)
§ 87(2)(g)

Page 2

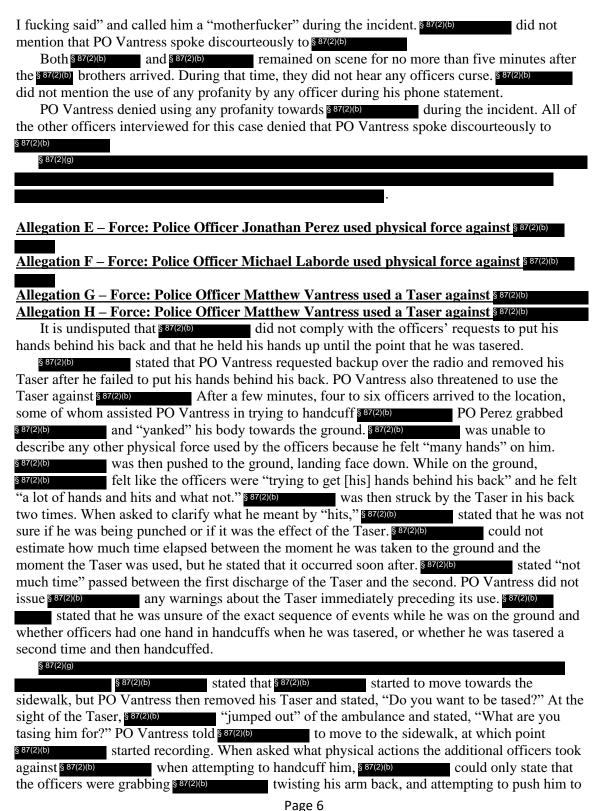
stated that he approached PO Vantress and asked for the whereabouts of his niece, to which PO Vantress responded, "I don't know," and then grabbed him by the arm and attempted to push and pull him onto the sidewalk. \$57(2)(0) asked PO Vantress why he was touching him and told him he would comply after making sure his niece was okay. PO Vantress was unresponsive and continued to push him towards the sidewalk by his arm. Eventually, PO Vantress "backed" \$57(2)(0) into the hood of a vehicle by "pulling, grabbing," and "pushing" him with one hand, which prompted \$57(2)(0) to state, "What the fuck are you doing? Don't touch me. You don't need to touch me. I'm making sure my nieces are okay." \$57(2)(0) denied resisting, but acknowledged that he kept his hands up and did not go to the sidewalk. PO Lorusso then came and assisted PO Vantress in holding \$57(2)(0) against the vehicle. \$57(2)(0) emphasized that he remained "cool" and "calm" and that his hands were
up. Eventually, PO Vantress stated, "Put your hands behind your back," but \$87(2)(5) did
not comply and continued keeping his hands up. \$87(2)(b) was unable to specify where the
officers were grabbing him, and only stated that the officers were "on [him]."
stated that after they approached PO Vantress, \$87(2)(b)
asked him about the whereabouts of his daughter and asked who hit his daughter approximately
three times. Immediately after, PO Vantress pushed \$87(2)(b) in the chest/shoulder area
and commanded him to move back and to move to the sidewalk. § 87(2)(b) told PO
Vantress not to touch him and asked again for his daughter's whereabouts, after which PO
Vantress pushed him the same area again and issued him the same commands. An individual in
the crowd then pointed out the ambulance that contained \$87(2)(b) s daughter and \$87(2)(b)
went to it and entered. While inside the ambulance, PO Vantress and PO Lorusso took
hold of \$87(2)(b) and commanded him to go to the sidewalk and pushed him towards the
parked vehicles.
the driver of the vehicle that struck the two girls, stated that he was
explaining the incident to PO Vantress when two black males arrived to the scene, one of whom
(identified by the investigation as \$87(2)(b) started yelling aggressively and asked, "Who
hit my girl?" \$87(2)(b) also stated, "I want to kill him," and, "I want to hit him." \$87(2)(b) so he ran to his vehicle and locked himself inside.
s behavior frightened \$ 07(2)(b) so the rain to his vehicle and locked himsen histoe. \$ 87(2)(b) also recalled that PO Vantress asked \$ 87(2)(b) to keep off the street three times,
but he did not listen. § 87(2)(b) was unable to provide any details regarding § 87(2)(b) s
behavior, and he only noted that \$87(2)(b) was "backing up" his brother. \$87(2)(b)
estimated that PO Vantress spent two to three minutes attempting to calm down the males before
telling them to stay off the street. §87(2)(5) did not observe PO Vantress push any of the
males, and he added that he did not see PO Vantress do "anything to them," except hold one of
the males (BR 07).
a witness to the vehicle accident, stated in her phone statement that
she observed \$87(2)(b) arrive to the scene claiming to be the father of the girl who was
struck by the car and was asking "who knocked down [his] daughter." [\$87(2)(b)] noted that
seemed, based on the tone of his voice, to be becoming "belligerent" and she
believed that it "was not going to end nicely." \$87(2)(b) noted that she did not hear \$87(2)(b)
state anything regarding the welfare of his child and that he seemed to be more concerned
about finding the individual that had struck her. §87(2)(b) also noted that the two officers at
to calm down several times, but he did not comply and began to
shout louder. 887(2)(5) also got the sense that PO Vantress was attempting to protect the
Page 3

driver from \$87(2)(b) by standing in between them and by telling him to calm down.
did not see an officer take any physical actions to calm down \$87(2)(b)
noted that she would have been scared had she been in the driver's position.
another witness to the vehicle accident, also provided a statement that was
generally consistent to \$87(2)(b) statement. Both individuals left the scene before the
arrests. Neither \$87(2)(b) nor \$87(2)(b) noticed any other individuals with \$87(2)(b)
or interacting with the officers. Neither \$87(2)(b) nor \$87(2)(b) mentioned observing a
second individual at the location interacting with the officers (BR 08, 09).
PO Vantress testified that he observed § 87(2)(b) and § 87(2)(b) approaching him
and § 87(2)(b) rapidly and both were yelling, "Where's the driver," loudly and aggressively,
which prompted § 87(2)(b) to get back into his vehicle. PO Vantress denied taking any
physical actions against \$87(2)(b) or \$87(2)(b) when they first approached; he only
stood in front of them to prevent them from reaching the driver because he believed they wanted
to fight the driver. PO Vantress spoke to the males, told them they could not behave in that
manner, and commanded them to get on the sidewalk. § 87(2)(b) and § 87(2)(b) had
not yet identified themselves as family members of the victims. § 87(2)(b) and § 87(2)(b)
then began to "curse [him] out," after which PO Vantress commanded them two more
times to get on the sidewalk. § 87(2)(b) then explained that he was either the father or uncle
of one of the victims and asked which ambulance "the girl was in." PO Vantress told him that he
did not know. §87(2)(b) then went over to one of the ambulances and went inside, where he
continued "being confrontational with EMS." PO Vantress did not prevent \$87(2)(b) from
entering because he had identified himself as a family member. §87(2)(b) was "giving EMS
problems" by cursing and yelling at them to the point that they could not do their job. §87(2)(b)
who was next to PO Vantress, continued being verbally confrontational, but did not
attempt to enter any of the ambulances. PO Vantress told \$87(2)(b) "Listen, you have to
get on the sidewalk," to which \$87(2)(b) responded, "Fuck you, you fat fucking pig. Fuck
you. I'm not doing anything. You can't tell me what to do." PO Vantress then stated, "I'm no
longer asking you. I'm telling you. You need to get on the sidewalk." PO Vantress commanded
to get on the sidewalk "at least a dozen times." \$87(2)(b) refused again,
after which PO Vantress grabbed §87(2)(b) by the arms and attempted to move him to the
sidewalk, but §87(2)(b) "ripped his arms out" and started yelling, "Don't fucking touch me.
You can't put your hands on me." PO Vantress then put one hand on \$87(2)(b) s chest and
attempted to push him towards the sidewalk, but §87(2)(b) continued to resist being moved,
at which point PO Vantress commanded §87(2)(b) to place his hands behind his back
because he was being placed under arrest. PO Vantress stated that \$87(2)(b) was considered
under arrest for obstructing governmental administration and for disorderly conduct. PO Vantress
denied that he physically interacted with §87(2)(b)
§ 87(2)(g)
PO Lorusso stated that §87(2)(b) also attempted to get into the ambulance, after which the
officers commanded him to get on the sidewalk. §87(2)(b) did not comply and also
attempted to physically move PO Lorusso and PO Vantress so that he could get to the ambulance,
after which he was told he would be arrested if he did not go to the sidewalk. PO Lorusso denied
that he or PO Vantress physically interacted with §87(2)(b)
Force may be used when it is reasonable to ensure the safety of a member of the service or a
third parson, or otherwise protect life, or when it is reasonable to place a parson in custody or to

third person, or otherwise protect life, or when it is reasonable to place a person in custody or to

Page 4

prevent escape from custody. In all circumstances, any application or use of force must be reasonable under the circumstances. NYPD Patrol Guide, Section 221-01 (BR 10). § 87(2)(g) § 87(2)(g) Allegation D – Discourtesy: Police Officer Matthew Vantress spoke discourteously to stated that after PO Vantress attempted to physically get him on the sidewalk, he told him to "get the fuck on the sidewalk," to "shut the fuck up," and to put his "fucking hands" behind his back. \$87(2)(b) also alleged that PO Vantress stated, "Did you hear what Page 5

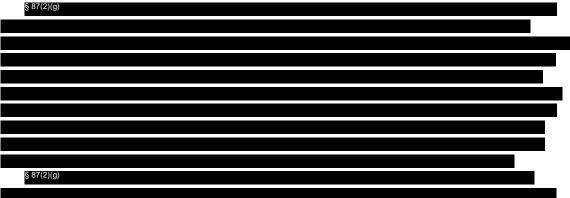


the ground. §887(2)(b) stated that his brother kept his hands up during this time but did not
do anything else. The officers managed to bend \$87(2)(b) over, but were not able to get him
to the ground. PO Vantress, who at this point was still holding onto \$87(2)(b) released
him, stepped back, and used his Taser against \$87(2)(b) striking him in his back. \$87(2)(b)
believed that PO Vantress "shocked" \$87(2)(b) twice. \$87(2)(b) estimated that
less than five seconds passed between the first discharge of the Taser and the second. §87(2)(6)
then went to the ground and was placed in handcuffs.
PO Vantress stated that \$87(2)(6) actively resisted arrest by refusing to "give up" his
arms and by not allowing PO Vantress and PO Lorusso to put him in handcuffs. PO Vantress then
called for additional units. During this time, \$87(2)(6) exited the ambulance and began
recording PO Vantress and PO Lorusso's struggle with \$87(2)(b) but \$87(2)(b) got
too close to PO Vantress and PO Lorusso, so PO Vantress removed his Taser and gave \$87(2)(6)
a "red dot warning" and told him that he needed to back up. PO Vantress added that he
removed his Taser because of safety concerns because he and PO Lorusso were the only officers
at the scene at the time, they were currently engaged with §87(2)(b) and because §87(2)(b)
was "aggressively coming too close" to them and was being "verbally abusive." During
this time, a crowd of five to ten people had gathered on the sidewalk and they were making noise
and "yelling things," but he was not sure what they were saying. Shortly after, PO Perez and PO
Laborde responded to the scene and assisted in trying to handcuff \$87(2)(b) by grabbing his
arms and trying to place them behind his back, but \$87(2)(b) continued to resist by refusing
to give up his arms. PO Vantress then proceeded to deploy his Taser against \$87(2)(6)
Vantress was approximately three feet away from \$87(2)(b) Immediately after deploying
the Taser, \$87(2)(b) "collapsed" to the ground, and the Taser cycled for five seconds. After
the first cycle stopped, \$87(2)(b) continued to resist while on the ground by moving around
and by putting his hands underneath his body, thereby not allowing officers to handcuff him. PO
Vantress cycled the Taser a second time, after which [\$87(2)(b)] put his hands behind his
back and allowed himself to be handcuffed. PO Vantress estimated that ten seconds passed
between the first cycle and the second cycle. PO Vantress noted that, prior to utilizing the Taser,
he warned \$87(2)(b) to stop resisting or he would use the Taser. At no point did \$87(2)(b)
verbalize that he would comply, or take any physical actions to indicate that he would
comply prior to the use of the Taser.
§ 87(2)(g)
After additional officers arrived, PO Vantress and the officers struggled with
for 30 seconds to one minute before the Taser was used, after which \$87(2)(b)
was able to be handcuffed. PO Lorusso also stated that \$87(2)(b) did not resist while
on the ground. PO Lorusso did not know if more than one cycle was used.
§ 87(2)(g)
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PO Perez explained that officers were trying to maneuver \$87(2)(b) s
arms to put them behind his back, but he kept tensing his arms in front of his body to prevent
himself from being handcuffed. After PO Vantress used the Taser against § 87(2)(b) and
while he was on the ground, \$87(2)(b) continued to resist by refusing to put his arms behind
his back. PO Perez did not recall \$87(2)(b) taking any other physical actions while on the
ground, besides refusing to give up his arms. PO Perez did not take any other physical actions
besides grabbing \$ 87(2)(6) s arms during the handcuffing process. PO Perez did not know
whether more than one cycle was used. PO Laborde denied that he had any physical contact with
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Page 7

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but was generally consistent with the other officers' statements regarding serices. Sgt. Hom did not witness serices are arrest because he placed serices in handcuffs, but his description of serices serices are upon arrival was generally consistent with the other officers' statements. All of the officers denied that was punched or struck in his back. The video provided by serices and captured by serices with his Taser out while he is holding onto serices and is then commanded to "back up." serices with his Taser out approaches PO Vantress and is then commanded to "back up." serices is cursing loudly at PO Vantress, during which he calls him a "fat fuck," and several other profanities.
lacktriangle
201704633_20180108_1251_DM.mp4 Snag video 1
The second part of the video is 13 seconds long and captures over the hood of a parked vehicle with his left arm extended in front of him, which PO Perez then grabs and attempts to place behind his back. PO Perez is being assisted by one or two additional officers; however, it appears that they are struggling to place his hands behind his back because from is not giving up his arms. The video does not capture PO Vantress's use of the Taser.
201704633_20180108_1253_DM.mp4
An officer must use only the reasonable force necessary to gain control or custody of a subject. NYPD Patrol Guide, Section 221-01 (BR 10). A Taser, which is classified as a less lethal device and is intended to augment and provide a greater margin of safety for officers who might otherwise be forced to physically subdue a dangerous subject, should only be used against persons who are actively resisting, exhibiting active aggression, or to prevent individuals from physically injuring themselves or other person. Active resisting includes physically evasive movements to defeat a member of the service's attempt to control, including bracing, tensing, pushing, or verbally signaling an intention to avoid or prevent being taken into custody. NYPD
pushing, or verbally signaling an intention to avoid or prevent being taken into custody. NYPD Patrol Guida, Section 221 08 (RP 11)

Patrol Guide, Section 221-08 (BR 11).



Page 8

off the ground and placed him inside an R indicating that he was in pain due to PO Perez's ac interviewed for this case denied observing an officer put the while on the ground, and they did not note that \$37(2)(5) was handcuffed or that they feared that he might have had that a large crowd had gathered, but none indicated that the	tion. All of the other officers heir foot on top of [807(2)(0)] was physically resistant after he a weapon. The officers also indicated
crowd. An officer must use only the reasonable force necessa	ry to gain control or custody of a
subject. NYPD Patrol Guide, Section 221-01 (BR 10).	ry to gain control of custody of a
§ 87(2)(g)	
§ 87(2)(g), § 87(4-b)	
_	
W 11 4 6 1 1 1 G	
 Mediation, Civil and Crim This case was unsuitable for mediation due to \$87(2)(b) 	s and § 87(2)(b) s arrests
and subsequent open criminal cases.	s and ser (70)
• As of October 25, 2017, § 87(2)(b) and § 87(2)(b)	have not filed a Notice of Claim
against the City of New York (BR 03).	
(§ 87(2)(b)] [§§ 86(1)(3)&(4)] [§ 87(2)(c)]	
Civilian and Officer Co	CDR Histories
• This is §87(2)(b) s first complaint (BR 05).	CND HISTORIES
• This is \$87(2)(b) s first CCRB complaint, thoug	gh he was listed as a witness in CCRB
§ 87(2)(b) (BR 06).	

- PO Vantress has been a member of the NYPD for nine years. He has been the subject of one previous allegation, which was exonerated.
- PO Lorusso has been a member of the NYPD for one year. This is his first CCRB complaint.
- PO Perez has been a member of the NYPD for six years. He has been the subject of four previous allegations stemming from one complaint with one substantiated allegation In CCRB 20109267, a property damage allegation was substantiated, for which he received instructions.
- PO Laborde has been a member of the NYPD for four years. He has been the subject of ten previous allegations stemming from two cases, none of which were substantiated. §87(2)(9). §

● § 87(2)(g)			
Squad:			
Investigator: _	Signature	Print	Date
Squad Leader: _	Title/Signature	Print	Date
Reviewer:	Title/Signature	Print	 Date